Section 26 of the Insecticides Act empowers the State Governments to issue notification in the Official Gazette, requiring any person or class of persons specified therein to report all occurrences of poisoning (through the use or handling of any insecticide) coming within his or their congnizance to such officer as may be specified therein. In exercise of their powers the State Governments have issued such notifications.

If any reports about the adverse effects of any pesticide come to the notice of the Government or the Registration Committee, due cognizance is taken of it. Immediate action is taken which may include banning or restricting, or phasing out, etc. of the use of the said product.

चीनी पत्रकारों का दौरा

2573. **श्री रामचन्द्र विकल** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अभी हाल में चीनी पत्रकारों का एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल भारत आया था ;

(ख) इस प्रतिनिधिमंडल में कितने सदस्य थे तथा दोनों देशों के प्रतिनिधिमंडलों के बीच क्या बातचीत हुई; और

(ग) क्या भारत से भी इसी प्रकार का प्रतिनिधिमंडल चीन भेजा जायेगा, यदि हां, तो कब ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री वी० एन० गाडगिल) : (क) और (ख) समाचारपत्रों में प्रकाशित समाचारों से यह पता चला है कि आल चाइना जर्नलिस्ट्स एसोसिएशन के एक पांच सदस्यीय प्रतिनिधि मंडल ने 23-10/24-10-85 से 4-11-85 तक भारत की यात्रा की थी । यह प्रतिनिधि मंडल आल इंडिया स्माल एण्ड मीडियम न्यूजपेपर्स फेडरेशन के निमंत्रण पर सर्वथा किसी यात्रा पर था । क्योंकि सरकार इससे सम्बन्धित नही थी इसलिए सरकार के पास यह जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है कि इन दोनों संगठनों के बीच क्या बातचीत हुई ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

National Seminar on Bio-Fertilisers

2574. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national project on bio-fertilisers for which one national, six regional and 40 sub- centres had been sanctioned is likely to produce annually 375 tonnes of rhizobium culture and 400 tonnes of blue-green algae;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he had inaugurated a two-day national seminar on bio-fertilisers in New Delhi in the month of October;

(c) if so, what was the outcome of the seminar; and

(d) whether the sanctioning of bio-fertilisers has been discussed during the seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) In the National Seminar on the Development and use of Bio-fertilisers, held on October 9-10, 1985 in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, discussions took place with regard to production, promotion, marketing and quality control of bio- fertilisers. The recommendatitons emerged in the seminar are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Recommendations of the National Seminar on Development and use of fertilisers held on 9-10 *October,* 1985 *at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.*

1. It was recognised that the targetted level of Agricultural Production can be achieved through increasing the productivity per unit area per unit time. Chemical fertilisers will have a key role to achieve the targetted level of agricultural production. Recycling of organic waste and bio-fertilisers can supplement the use of chemical fertilisers. This can be achieved through an integrated nutrient supply system.

2. Adequate nodal points under a National agency should be set up in the country to coordinate integrated nutrient supply system.

3. Bio-fertilisers have been found to have a considerable scope for supplementing the nitrogen requirement. Rhizobium has been found to have a wider application for pulses and legume oilseeds and Blue Green Algae for wet land rice. Research efforts are required to be continued for exploiting other bio-fertilisers viz. Azotobacter, Azospirillum and Azolla.

4. A National Culture Collection Bank for Rhizobium and Blue Green Algae should be established. It should also be obligatory for all strains to be deposited in the Bank with full documentation. This centre will function both as a depository and service centre.

5. To promote the use of and to generate the demand of bio- fertilizers, national demonstrations, training programmes and other extension activities should be taken up.

6. Research efforts should be continued to develop the technical know-how in production, marketing, storage and transportation of bio-fertilisers.

7. Quality control is an essential component of promotion and use of bio- fertilisers. Production units should have build in quality control facilities before the bio-fertilisers are released for marketing.

8. Research activities should continue to evolve effective strains suitable for various soil, crop, ecological and environment conditions for obtaining maximum benefits from the use of bio-fertilisers.

9. An appropriate legislation should be enacted to prescribe the standards of approved bio-fertilisers and check their quality.

10. The fertiliser industry should be effectively involved in marketing, distribution and promiotion of bio-fertilisers. The promotion of bio-fertilisers should form a component of their promotional activities.

11. Marketing Federations, Agro- industries, National Seeds Corporation, State Seeds Corporations, State Farms Corporations should take up production and marketing of bio-fertilisers.

12. National Project on Bio-Fertilisers sanctioned by the Government for establishment of one national, six regional and 40 sub-centres was appreciated. It was recommended that the project should be strengthened during the Seventh Five Year Plan to enlarge its activities for promotion, marketing and quality control of bio-fertilisers.

13. The private entrepreneurs intending to produce bio-fertilisers should also invest on its promotion through field demonstration and other extension programmes.

14. It was noted that various types of bio-fertilisers are being successfully used in various countries such as Australia, USA Brazil, Canada, New Zealand, China and Vietnam. They have not only developed the technologies for large scale production but have also developed the marketing transportation also distribustion systems. India should interact with these conntries and take benefit of the experience of these countries to the extent applicable to Indian conditions.

Gap between Controlled and Open Market Prices of Essential Commodities

2575. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is wide gap between controlled and market prices of essential commodities in the country at present;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) to what extent these market prices are comparable with those during the last three years; and

(d) what measures Government propose to take to remove this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) For the commodities sold through the public distribution system for which there is a dual price system, some variation between the prices fixed by the Government and the market prices exists.